



Public Service Commission of Wisconsin

Daniel R. Ebert, Chairperson
Mark Meyer, Commissioner
Lauren Azar, Commissioner

610 North Whitney Way
P.O. Box 7854
Madison, WI 53707-7854

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 - 12th Street, S.W., Room TW - A306
Washington, DC 20554

Ms. Karen Majcher
Vice President, High Cost and Low Income Division
Universal Service Administrative Company
2000 L Street, NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20036

Re: Annual Certification of Eligible Telecommunication Carriers
(ETCs) for Eligibility to Receive Federal High-Cost Fund
Support

05-GF-135

CC Docket No. 96-45

Dear Ms. Dortch and Ms. Majcher:

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) requires that state commissions must file an annual certification with Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) and the FCC stating that all federal high-cost fund (HCF) support provided to carriers in their respective states will be used only for the intended purposes.¹

As in previous years, the Commission requested and received sworn affidavits from the carriers identified in the enclosed list. The list identifies the name and study area as identified by USAC, and the date of receipt. All Eligible Telecommunications Carriers (ETC) receiving or projected to receive HCF support in the first quarter of 2008 have submitted affidavits. In addition, this year ETCs receiving HCF support were requested to provide information regarding the amount of support and its use. All ETCs that receive HCF support also provided information supporting the statements in their affidavits regarding their use of current and projected HCF support.

In its sworn affidavit, each carrier states:

4. Carrier files this affidavit in compliance with the Federal Communications Commission's order of May 23, 2001, in Docket No. 96-45, which requires states to certify to the Federal Communications Commission that all Federal High-Cost

¹ In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45/CC Docket No. 00-256, Fourteenth Report and Order, Twenty-Second Order on Reconsideration, and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in CC Docket No. 96-45 and Report and Order in CC Docket No. 00-256 (FCC 01-157) (released May 23, 2001).

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Support within this state be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended.

5. Carrier hereby states that it will use the Federal High-Cost Support Funds only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

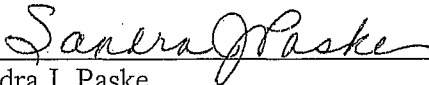
Relying on these sworn affidavits, and the additional information provided in support of those affidavits, the Commission certifies that all the federal HCF support funds received by these Wisconsin companies will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended pursuant to § 254(e) of the Federal Telecommunications Act of 1996.

The Commission has taken note of the FCC's recent revisions to the annual certification and reporting requirements for ETCs under its jurisdiction and that in its order the FCC encourages states to adopt these same requirements.² The Commission has issued a notice in rulemaking Docket No. 1-AC-198 addressing proposed rule changes to the Wisconsin Universal Service Fund. Those proposed rules now include updated provisions regarding ETC certification and reporting that closely conform to the FCC's current federal ETC requirements.

Questions regarding this matter may be directed to Jeff Richter, of our staff, at (608) 267-9624.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, September 26, 2007

By the Commission:


Sandra J. Paske
Secretary to the Commission

SJP:JJR:klh:DL:05-GF-135\nnon-docket\letter to Dortch and Majcher

Attachment

² In the Matter of Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service, CC Docket No. 96-45, "Report and Order," (released March 17, 2005).